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vegetation has been studied chiefly on Ruwenzori and Kilimanjaro and in the mountains of Kamerun, all of which exhibit unusual types of vegetation, and possess a flora which has close affinities with that of Europe.

Engler has not only described the physiognomy of African vegetation and given lists of the common and characteristic plants and a wealth of detail regarding their gross anatomy, but he has done more than this in continually relating the changes in character of the vegetation to the changes in physical features, in soils, and in climate. His climatological data is chiefly drawn from Hann and Fraunberger, and are designed, naturally, to give only a very incomplete conception of the distribution of climatic conditions in Africa. It is possible, however, even with the incomplete knowledge of the present time, to discover a general correlation between the most distinct types of vegetation and the most marked climatic regions, some features of which correlation find a close parallel in the southern portion of North America.

The two volumes are profusely illustrated, partly with characteristic landscapes and views of the vegetation, but chiefly with cuts showing the foliage and flowers of individual species of plants. Detailed maps of the vegetation of the four German colonies are particularly well executed.

Professor Engler has been actuated in this work not only by its scientific importance, but by a realization of the practical value which natural vegetation possesses as an index of the agricultural possibilities of the various portions of Africa. We have every admiration for the manner in which the German nation is bringing its scientific workers into cooperation in aiding the early development of its colonial possessions.

FORREST SHREVE.

Tripoli and Young Italy. By Charles Lapworth in collaboration with Miss Helen Zimmern. 347 pp. Map, ills. Stephen, Swift & Co., Ltd., London, 1912. 10s. 6d. 9 x 6.

This book attempts to define the "new Italy" recently seized by that kingdom in Africa. The author presents as comprehensively as possible the case for Italy. A review of the doings of the Turkish Government in Tripoli opens the discussion, and the indictment of Turkey is severe. So logical and forcible is the argument that the reader may be convinced that Italy's act was wholly justified. But the author perhaps weakens his case in the following chapter, which expounds the thesis that "Tripoli was a vital political necessity to Italy." The author gives a good account of the main features of Tripoli's history, estimates fairly her commercial value and is optimistic concerning her future development. The remainder of the book is an appreciation of Italy and is presented under the divisions of political, economic, intellectual and nationalist Italy. It closes with a discussion of Italy's place in European politics following her rise in prestige since the successful outcome of her Tripolitan experience. The book is entertaining and the subject-matter is carefully arranged.

ROBERT M. BROWN.

Tripoli the Mysterious. By Mabel Loomis Todd. xv and 214 pp. ills., index. Small, Maynard & Co., Boston, 1912. \$2. 8½ x 5½.

Two visits to Tripoli to view the eclipses of 1900 and 1905 gave Mrs. Todd an opportunity to get some vivid impressions concerning this country of the north of Africa. The picture which she presents is as she says "an incomplete one . . . though drawn with a loving and appreciative hand." We get slight glimpses of the white city of Tripoli, of a few of its buildings, relics and gardens, and especially of the harems, weddings, markets and funerals. However, Mrs. Todd shows herself more the astronomer than the tourist, and for this reason, probably, the chapters on the eclipses, with the fascinating city of Tripoli as a background, are especially interesting parts of the book.

ROBERT M. BROWN.

ASIA

Report on the Control of the Aborigines in Formosa. 45 pp. Maps, ills. Bureau of Aboriginal Affairs, Taihoku, Formosa, 1911. 9 x 6.

Two comparisons bearing upon this volume cannot fail of awakening surprise. The title suggests the classic remark passed between pot and kettle, for